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## PRESS RELEASE

### **EDWIN MELLEN PRESS ANNOUNCES IT HAS DISCONTINUED LEGAL ACTION AGAINST McMASTER UNIVERSITY, et al**

The Edwin Mellen Press ("EMP") is a scholarly publisher. This has been confirmed in a recent Open Letter to the Scholarly Community posted on the web by the Association of Canadian University Presses. EMP fills a niche for publications in highly specialized areas. EMP neither seeks nor receives any government subsidies, grants or author subsidies. The Association and others have pursued a social media campaign complaining about legal action taken by EMP.

EMP believes that authors should not be implicated, directly or indirectly, in the current social media campaign. The campaign seeks to pressure EMP to end legal action against McMaster University and Dale Askey. One of the points raised in the social media campaign is that in matters involving the Academy, legal action to protect EMP's good name has no place. EMP sought out a meeting with McMaster University to discuss its concerns before legal action was taken. McMaster University refused, citing the fact that it had no responsibility for Mr. Askey's web publications.

The financial pressure of the social media campaign and pressure on authors is severe. EMP is a small company. Therefore must choose to focus its resources on its business and serving its authors.

Accordingly, EMP has discontinued the court case against McMaster University and Dale Askey. EMP remains resolute that all have the right to free speech. Equally, all have the right to take steps, including legal action, to protect their good names and reputation.

The Edwin Mellen Press